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County of Oxford--Meetings

Mr. Hincks rose and called the attention of the meeting to the act appointing District Councils, which he termed one of the best measures that ever was conceded by the crown of Great Britain to any of her colonists; it was such as must convince every friend of his country of the liberal intentions of the Governor General.

It was known to many of the gentlemen present that he (Mr. H.) had, for months previous to the meeting of parliament, opposed the policy pursued by the late lamented nobleman; and for weeks after the meeting of parliament, he pursued the same course, but so soon as his lordship compelled such men as Draper, Ogden and other members of his government, to abandon their tory course, and join the reform ranks, all hostility ceased in his bosom; and he felt it to be his duty to withdraw from the ranks of his former friends, because those gentlemen wished to overthrow one of the most virtuous and liberal administrations that ever was established. Here the orator commenced reading the journals, and in calling over the names on the yeas and nays, he "more than once" lamented the defection of his former friends—Messrs. Baldwin and Price, who had joined the ranks of tory Cartwright, tory Sherwood, tory McNab, and tory Aylwin!—dwelt upon the great advantages of the District Council Act, and declared that no man who possessed a spark of rational liberty, but would rejoice at it; it would enable his constituents to tax the unoccupied lands of "*old Street of the Falls, and Dr. Baldwin, of Toronto,*" which had become a nuisance in the country; and he regretted that the tax was not **THREE PENCE per acre.** He had the highest

late representative, Mr. Alway, Texas;

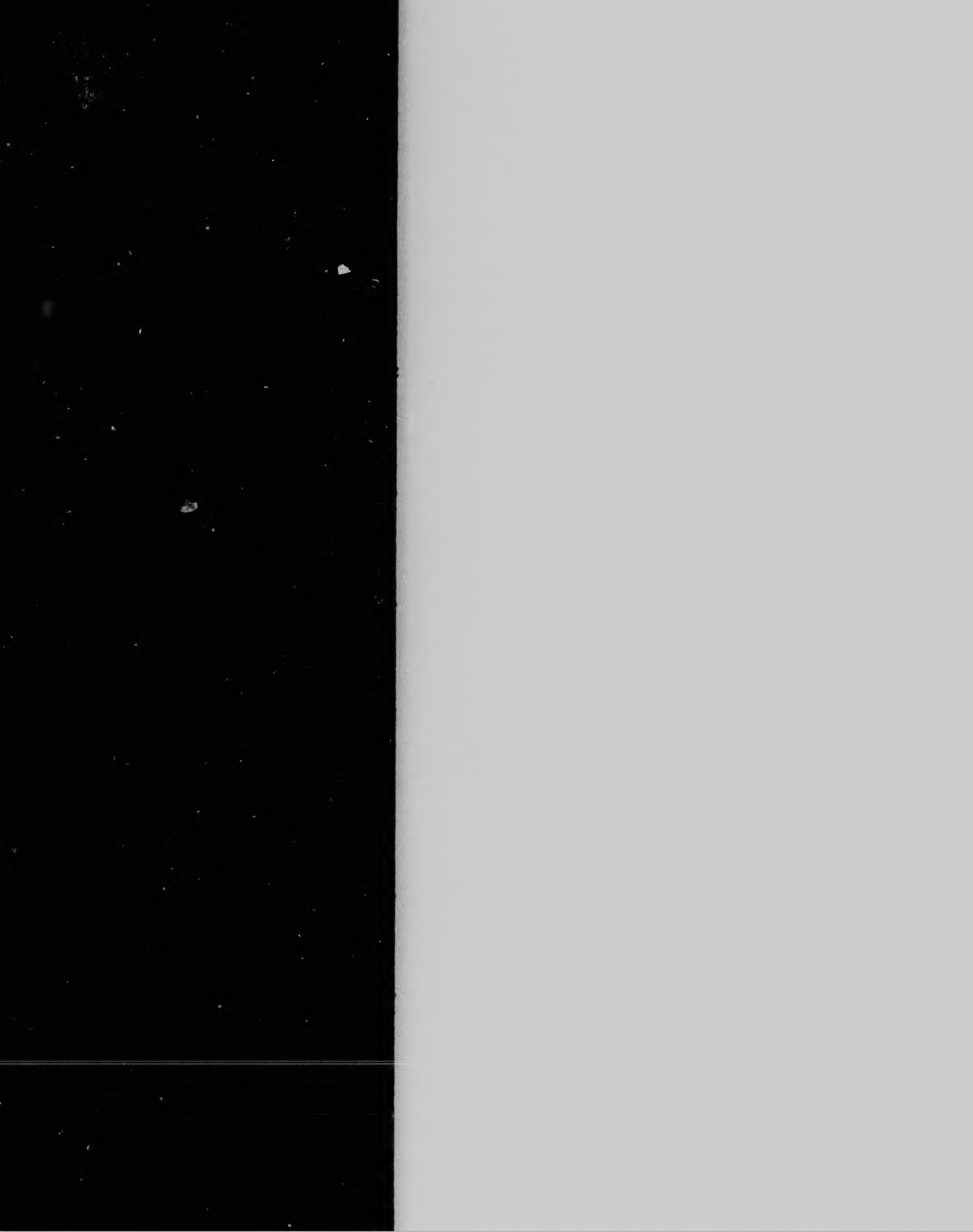
He would now endeavour to read the *ing speech* of Mr. Hincks:—that he boasted of his patriotism and his had the unblushing effrontery to order to serve himself by the benefit from the execration which he received. He had told you of the boons and great benefits the country would receive from the council act, which Mr. Baldwin had opposed; but he had not told you of the evils which it had in store for the people.—He (Mr. C.) could assure them that he had not read the act, nor had he read it until he heard of the terms proposed by Mr. Baldwin; for he believed it to be as Mr. H. had represented, namely, taxing the *unoccupied lands* of such men as Dr. Baldwin, of the Falls, and Dr. Baldwin, of the Falls, what, gentlemen, was his astonishment when he read the odious—the infamous—the document this morning, and found it to be, for taxing the unoccupied lands of the province, but an act for confiscation and certain operation, the whole of which would be to the detriment of the unfortunate widows and orphans.

All the servants of the council were to be appointed by the Executive pleasure—so that any servant of the council could be appointed with impunity for they could not be removed. In the next place this dark Mr. Hincks prevents you from electing your own representatives in the council matters not how great his acquirements.

ings at Blenheim & Burford

Alway, who resided in erecting toll gates upon any, or all the roads in your district; and they are not bound to improve the roads upon which such toll gates shall be erected. So gentlemen, you must now perceive that this darling offspring of *your* virtuous Reform Parliament, and liberal, and enlightened, and Responsible Government, makes you, as if by magic, a tax gathering and a tax devouring community. (Here, Mr. Hincks, cried, "the people can prevent the evil you point out by a proper selection.") Yes, said Mr. C. and he trusted they would guard against the evil. But as they were deceived in their selection of you, may they not be again deceived by the return of like greedy expectants to the council?

They were deceived, grievously deceived, when they selected an apostate to represent their interests. (Here, Mr. Hincks, rose and cried out "Mr. Carey: gentlemen, Mr. Carey voted for the Tories at the Municipal election, and he it was that drove Mr. Baldwin from the city." (great laughter.) Mr. Carey said he would not complain of the interruption; it was true, that he did use every means in his power to defeat Mr. B. in the city. And why? because Mr. Baldwin, had, in his opinion, abandoned his former principles. At the city election he (Mr. C.) voted for 4 candidates, because they had pledged themselves to oppose the despotic policy that was then pursued; he did not vote for them on account of party, and Mr. H. knew that he (Mr. C.) in opposing the dripping-pan candidates, was sacrificing his own and his family's interest. There was no man could have entertained a higher respect for Mr. Baldwin than he. As a lawyer, a gentleman, a



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The act was unjust in principle, and cruel in operation. They could not find one man in a hundred in this province, capable of explaining

If Mr. Hincks understands this act, he must be a hypocrite of the basest stamp; for he has told you that the tax would fall only upon the *unimproved lands* in this province. He may tell you that you can tax "those nuisances"—the lands of Mr. Street, of the Falls, and of Dr. Baldwin, of Toronto, but he did not tell you that, in taxing their wild lands, you must tax the whole of your own lands, improved as well as wild. He, Mr. Hincks, would ask Mr. Hincks why he had not proposed this part of the act. It was true, gentlemen, that you have a power in this act, to tax the lands of Street and Baldwin. But mind, in so doing, you must tax the whole of your own. You may tax the lands of the widows and the orphans, and, if they cannot find funds to meet the demands of the tax-gatherer, their beds and blankets, their food and raiment, or their cattle and horses, will be seized and sold for the amount. Will Mr. Hincks deny the truth of this assertion? He will not, because he dares not.

The 40th clause of this deceptive act protects the whole of the Canada Company's lands from the tax, and this clause is so nicely worded, that no man except one in the secrets of "the cabinet," a member of the cabinet, or a lawyer, can understand it. Mr. Hincks, as a member of Assembly—as a ready supporter of this act; and as a *thorough-going* tool of the new Reformer, Attorney General, understands it; but so great is his corruption, that he will not explain it to you.

All knew the Canada Company; and he would tell them that their lands are wholly exempted by

for a time it would appear as if all the Reformers were arrayed against the bill. But when it was stated by a friend of Lord Sydenham, that the character of his Lordship was involved in the measure; and that his Lordship, as a public man, must stand or fall by the issue, they thought it advisable, in order to avoid a collision with his Lordship, which would lead to a dissolution of the house, to withdraw their opposition to the bill. They had a choice of two evils, namely, to support the measure which would bring on a dissolution, and place the Tories in power, or support the measure in order to retain power in the hands of the Reformers, and keep the Tories out of office.

Mr. Carr asked the meeting what they now thought of the Reformers in the Assembly? Were they not a disgrace to the country? Of all men, and of all parties in this deluded country, there were none so loathing to him as the "Deformers" of Canada. Mr. Hincks, goaded by the stings of a guilty conscience, or a mild castigation, has "let the cat out of the bag;" and he could now decide between his conduct and that of Baldwin, Price, and Aylwin. He admits that he and all his Reformers were compelled, in order to avoid a dissolution of, if not the house, the most talentless parliament that was ever elected in this province, or in Upper or Lower Canada, to sanction a measure of oppression and confiscation, in order to secure office for themselves. Was not this responsible government with a vengeance? The people of this reform country had been struggling for responsible government; and they now found from the conduct of their member, that a large majority of the self-styled Reformers in the Assembly, were mere slaves in the hands of the Executive; that instead of the officers of government being responsible, for their acts to the members, the members were responsible, and had become slaves to the servants of the Executive. Mr. Hincks has stated, that the people of this province were more free than the people of the great Republic. He did not know what sort of liberty the citizens of the United States were in possession of, but he did know that the people of this Province were more degraded than the people of any other country in British North America. Their late constitution, (the Constitution of 1791) perfected by the most enlightened statesman that ever presided in the councils of the British nation, has been swept away; and the only reason assigned for

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then, in the first place, he should descend and meet the orator with his own weapons. Mr. Hincks wished to fasten on him an act of corruption for having published Mr. Sherwood's address.—This, as a charge of corruption, comes with a very bad grace from the would-be hero whose first performance on the political boards of Toronto, was in the capacity of a degraded tool to Alderman George Gurnet. Yes, gentlemen, Mr. Hincks, was the hired hack of Mr. Gurnet; he went through the city procuring signatures to a petition against the return of Dr. Morrison, Harper, Doel, and Wm. Ketchum. Was not this conduct disgraceful in the extreme? (Cries of yes, yes.) Aye, gentlemen, and so was Mr. Gurnet's for having accepted of the services of such a man. Mr. Hincks tells you that the late Governor was a friend to liberty. He (Mr. C.) was averse to war with the living; and he should regret by any expression, to wound the feelings of the friends of the deceased. He opposed the policy of the late Governor General at a time when he (Mr. C.) stood in need of his aid—when that aid was offered—and when it would have been of service to him; and he did so because the policy pursued was, in his opinion, a violation of the constitutions of Great Britain and the Canadas. But, as Mr. Hincks had forced the question upon him, he would ask him to produce acts in support of the liberal and virtuous policy spoken of? Where were they to be found? Was it in taxing the people £83,000 a year without their consent or knowledge? Was it in this Council Act, which was forced, as appeared by Mr. Hincks' own words, down the throats of the slaves and knaves in the Assembly; and which enabled a corrupt Council to treble the taxes of the minors—the widows and the orphans, whilst it shielded the lands of the Canada Company from the payment of a farthing? Was it in the curtailment of the numbers for counties, and the establishment of rotten boroughs? Or was it in the open and undisguised tampering with elections? This last charge was preferred by Mr. H. against the late Governor; but then there was no hope of his obtaining office by trading in your liberties. He, however, could not but approve of some part of his policy; he was sure every man would be satisfied with the retirement of Manahan from the House, and the elevation of Mr. Harrison—a man who would, were he in the humble situation in which he (Mr. C.) stood—or in that of a soldier in the ranks, or a tar at the helm, be found a man of honour and a gentleman.

[Here Mr. H. said that all governments used like means to secure seats for their supporters.]

But he would now assert, and he defied the orator to deny it, that Mr. Hincks had told him "more than once," that the late Governor General was the greatest despot—the greatest tyrant that ever commanded in a British Province; and he told him too,

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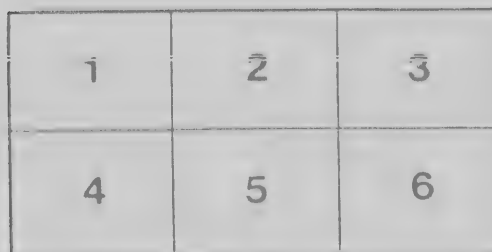
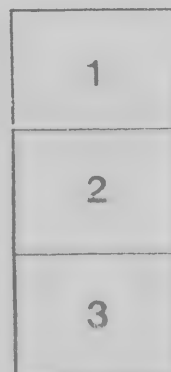
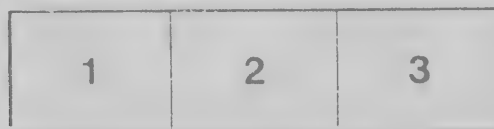
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win, of Toronto," which had become a nuisance in the country; and he regretted that the tax was not **THREE PENCE per acre**. He had the highest respect for Mr. Robert Baldwin, but he could not but regret that this act, which went to confer honour by him, in the House of Assembly—A MONSTER. All knew his [Mr. H.'s] exertions in the cause of public liberty, all knew the claim he had upon the gratitude of the country for having been a chief instrument in establishing Responsible Government; and he was now rejoiced in having it in his power to assert, without the fear of contradiction, that the liberty enjoyed by the subjects of Her Majesty in this province, was much greater than that enjoyed by the citizens of the United States. (Hear him, hear him.) Yes, he would insist that the people of this province possessed more liberty than the citizens of the great republic where the chief magistrate vetoed the Bank bill.

Mr. H. boasted of the purity of the late administration and the patriotism of himself and his new and highly respectable allies, for having passed the School bill, the Militia bill, and the Court of Requests bill. He again lamented that Mr. R. Baldwin, who called the council bill a MONSTER—had joined the tory ranks and supported tory Cartwright, of Kingston, who declared that he would sell his property and abandon the province if the bill should become a law. He had many more subjects to introduce and remarks to make; but as Mr. Carey, who had come up from Toronto to oppose him, was now in the room, & who he had no doubt would make a speech, he (Mr. H.) would reserve further remarks until Mr. C. had done.

Mr. Carey rose and assured the meeting that he had not come up from Toronto to oppose Mr. Hincks; he knew nothing of the movements of the leading orator of the Assembly; and he had only heard the day before that Mr. H. was in that part of the country. He (Mr. C.) had left his home, at the request of the widow and orphans of their

him. In the next place this darling Hincks prevents you from electing matters not how great his acquirements for the council, who is not possessed of an estate worth £300, currency; would you? Do you approve of it? Mr. H. his friends tell the electors of this county that he is a man who is not worth in lands, £300, fit to represent you in council. Do you for talent, independence of mind, or knowledge, gentlemen, it does not. You who derive an honest living from your talents as mechanics, shopmen, or farmers, your fields, that possess more talent and more sterling honesty than some of the political jugglers that have thus joined together to deprive many of your liberties. Will Mr. H. tell you the act is odious and impious? Will he tell you that there are not men toiling in poverty to him in honor, in learning, and in industry? He will not; and yet, by this act, he will say such men shall not represent you in council because they do not possess an estate worth £300. He (Mr. C.) would like to see the jugglers in the Assembly had not hoped they had not had recourse to this—a pocket full of money, or a false name. This clause of the act (the 11th.) induced every member who had a heart for his country at heart, to reject the whole act. The 39th clause, empowers the council to erect TOLL GATES, on any road, and to require people to pay tolls for their horses passing through them. How do you like this privilege. The jugglers, they would not be determined to have the pound of the council. Hincks expressed his regret that the act was not **THREE PENCE per acre**. We will have it. If not "in meal, he will have it in money, though the council cannot assess land. If they had an acre over and above the present, they have it in their power to make it maining 1½d an acre, or four times

his darling child of Mr. and his family's interest. There was no man electing any man, it could have entertained a higher respect for Mr. Baldwin than he. As a lawyer, a gentleman, a friend, a brother, or a son, his superior could not be found on the continent of America. He knew of his taking office under the late unconstitutional administration, he felt as much astonished as if he had heard of a virtuous matron taking up her abode in a ——— house. Mr. Baldwin tarnished his character as a politician by that act. Therefore, he condemned his policy, and used every means in his power to defeat him in the city. He condemned him for taking office, and he could not thank him for having thrown it up; because Mr. B. knew the policy of the cabinet as well before he had entered office as he did when he withdrew from it. But, what right had Mr. Hincks—a *turncoat* of the blackest dye—to reproach him for having opposed Mr. Baldwin in the city, when he himself condemns him in your presence, for his "factions opposition" to this brutal enactment? Mr. Hincks' conduct reminded him of the viper in the fable. M. Baldwin took him when he was a stranger; a *cast off tool* of "the corporation of Toronto," and he warmed him into life. And what has been the return for this act of humanity? Ingratitude of the blackest description. Has not the theme of his proceedings this day been the defamation of Mr. Baldwin, and the aged sire of Mr. Baldwin. He has laid before you the nuisance—the lands of the father and the factions opposition of the son; he has told you that Mr. Baldwin and Mr. Price abandoned the reform ranks and joined tory Cartwright, tory McNab, tory Sherwood, and tory Aylwin; but he has not told you that he himself had joined the ranks of *war to the knife*, tory Draper, tory Day, tory Ogden, tory Boswell, and the rest of the turncoats. He has not told you that he bartered away your rights and the rights of your offspring in the hope of securing an office. The wages of prostitution, he rejoiced to state, were still withheld from him; but he expected the base bribe: he hoped to delude you, so that upon his





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Mr. Hincks said, he was as much opposed to the bill when it was brought before the house as Mr. Carey, and he was determined to resist it, but that meeting was convened by the Reform members; that meeting some of the evils now so ably denounced upon by Mr. Carey, were discussed; and

1791) perfected by the most enlightened statesman that sat in the councils of the British nation, has been by consent swept away; and the only reason assigned for this atrocious piracy was, to "destroy the power of the '98 pact." Really, it is enough to make one's blood boil to dwell upon the subject. The poor Africans and Indians have been emancipated, and placed in full possession of their rights by the act of 1834; the same privileges are continued to the Novascotians and New Brunswickers; but you, and your fathers, and their companions, to this day, the crown is indebted for the safety of this province by one fell swoop, been stript of almost every vestige of liberty. He (Mr. C.) would ask them if any of their forefathers would have truckled to Lord Sydenham, and fallen in with his measures in order to ward off a dissolution. Surely he would not have the hardihood to tell you that he would desert him for having opposed this monstrous measure. Instead of deserting him, would not you—would not you join with me in returning him to the Assembly, to answer this question? Yes, gentlemen, he knew we could and would do so; but he, like all political knaves, knowing that it was more profitable to soothe the feelings of a Governor than to oppose his measures, and your children's interests, basely abandoned your votes for a bill which goes to oppress and enslave not only the present but the offspring of your loins.

[Here Mr. Hincks sprang up, and wildly screamed, "men, gentlemen, Henry Sherwood—the greatest tory in the province, published his address in the Globe, Mr. Carey's

Gentlemen, said Mr. Carey, I am in no way astonished or laugh excited by the littleness of your representative—he could not avoid joining in the merriment created by this his only remaining hope of shielding himself from the censure of the medium which his own acts, and not my language, have laid upon him. I really pity the weakness of the man. I know that he (Mr. C.) was not upon his trial. Mr. Hincks is the criminal; and he it was that courted enquiry. But the charge which he has thought proper to prefer against (Mr. C.) should plead guilty to it. It was true, gentlemen, that "the greatest tory in the province, Henry Sherwood," published his address to the electors of the city to publish in the Globe, and he could assure the meeting, that he regretted that no tories in the Province had not followed his example. I will tell you that Messrs. Baldwin, Price, Duggan, Monro, Macdonald, Buchanan, Gamble, Hunter, Small, &c. (forming a circle of patriots) had honored the Globe with their addresses. "the greatest tory in the province?" But, why bring up this silly trash? Was it because the facts and arguments which were ward against him were unanswerable? Mr. Hincks said that the Globe contained Mr. Sherwood's address! He might as well charge one of you with corruption because he sold a bushel of wheat to a tory miller, or a tory merchant because he (Mr. C.) had not a gilt watch, lily white hands, and long nails, that he should not be listened to. Mr. Hincks' eloquence was on a par with his arguments, both showed that he was not gold that glittered. He feared he was trespassing upon the patience of the meeting. (Cries of no, no, go

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But he would now assert, and he defied the effort to deny it,
that Mr. Hincks had told him "more than once," that the late
Governor General was the greatest despot—the greatest tyrant
that ever commanded in a British Province; and he told him too,
that he ought to be booted from the Province. You see, gentle-
men, he does not deny it, because he dares not; and it must be
apparent to you all, that sordid lucre, and not your interests, is
his object. ~~But he would now assert, and he defied the effort to deny it,~~
friends, who, whilst they were attempting to wile from you three
dollars a day for their attendance, compel the members of the
council to attend for nothing.

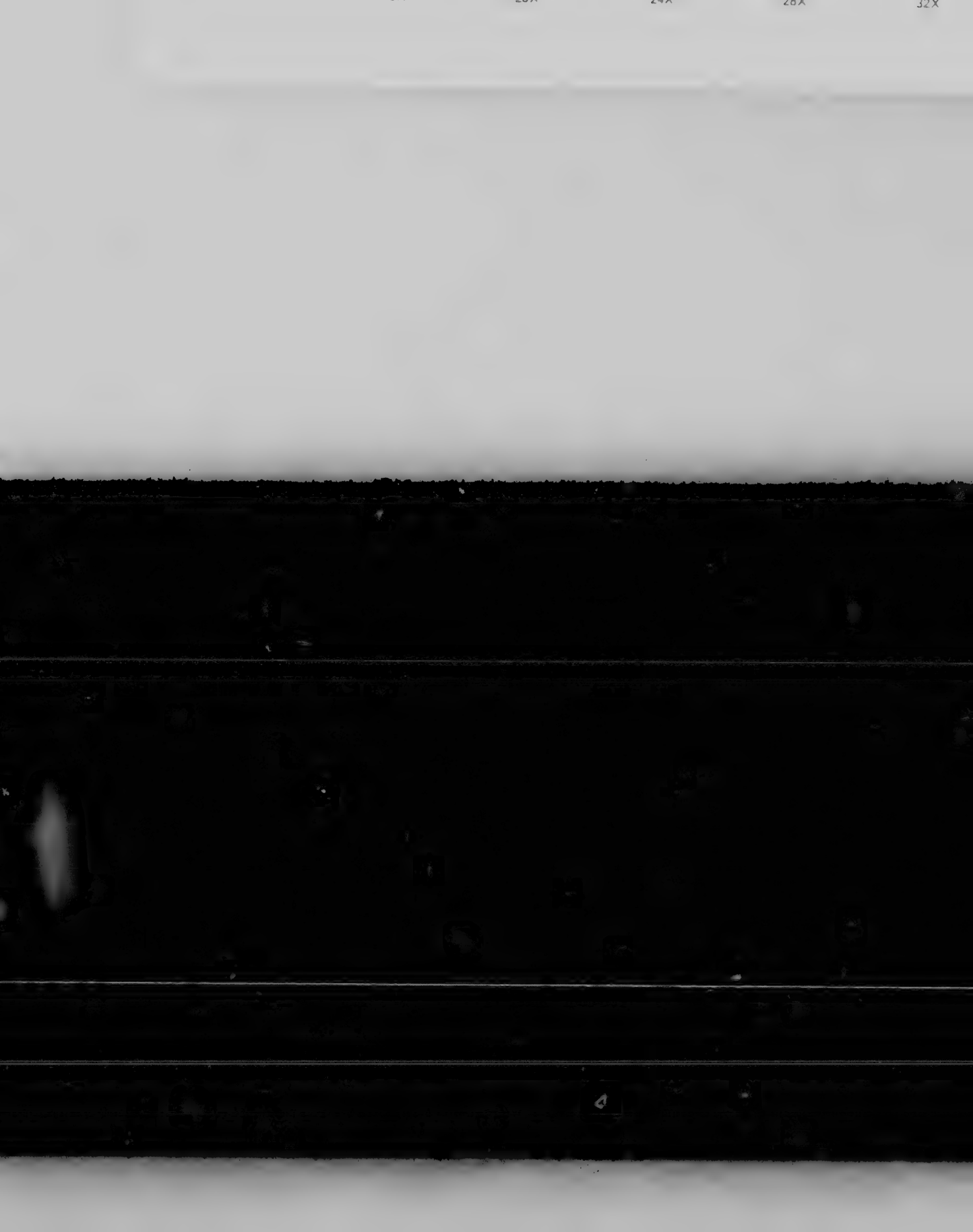
The Court of Requests' Act of which Mr. Hincks boasts, he
(Mr. C.) looked upon it as a second "Monsieur." Instead of
bringing justice to every man's door as was the case heretofore,
suitors, witnesses, and jurors would have to travel, in many in-
stances in his district from ten to sixty miles, upon a disputed ac-
count of one shilling. The act was passed in order to enrich a
few at the expense of the many; he did hope that the people
would kill this second monster, by appointing judges from among
themselves to settle all disputed accounts. In his part of the pro-
vince, he could assure them, that many of the farmers had as
much as they could do to pay the present taxes. They were a
sober and industrious population, and he did hope that they would
never have to stand with their arms folded looking at the Bailiff
selling their property, or the property of the widows and orphans
under the monstrous, and fraudulent, and oppressive acts of the
late session. Let them send no man to the council but such as
would oppose the operation of the acts; and if those selected
should betray them, if they should like your representative—sell
their interests for office, or the promise of it, he did hope they
would be flayed upon their return.

But these obnoxious Acts had one feature that he was pleased
with, namely, it was not an indirect tax; but an open undis-
guised system of oppression that would make every man, except
a knave, a tax-gatherer, or a tax devourer cry aloud for their re-
peal. Was it not a gross injustice to assess lands not worth one
shilling an acre as high as lands which sell at \$400 an acre? In
his township (Toronto) if the school and council acts were fully
carried out, the people would have to pay the ensuing year,
£2,000 more than they now pay; yet Mr. Hincks regrets that
the tax was not three pence an acre. How is this sum to be
collected? will the people submit to the seizure and confiscation
of their property? If they do not, the tax cannot be paid.

Mr. C. thanked the meeting for their attention and bid them
adieu.

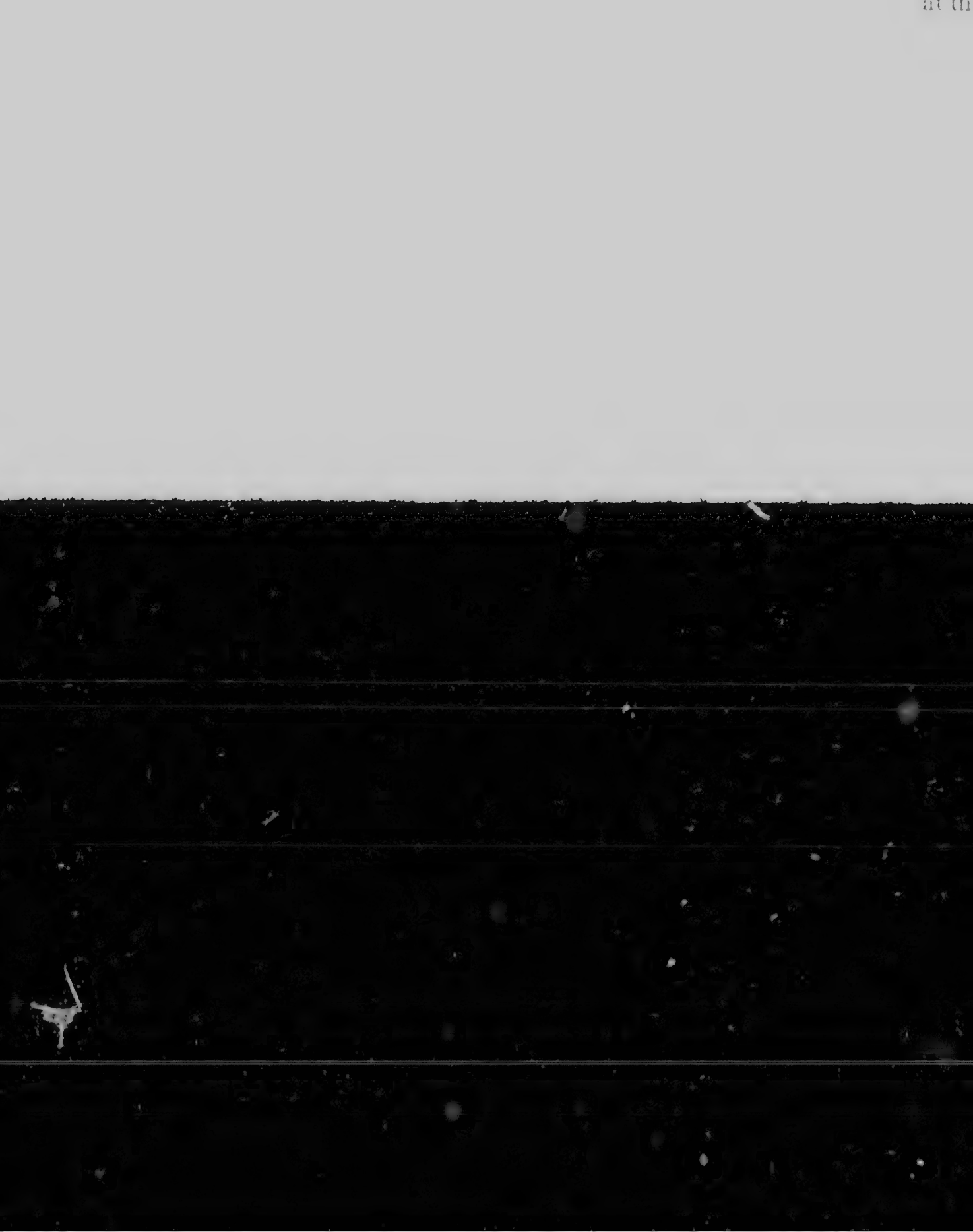
There was not a single resolution offered to the meeting in Mr.
C's presence, and as Mr. H. joined in denouncing the acts as un-
just and oppressive, he supposed that he would have prepared a
resolution to that effect.

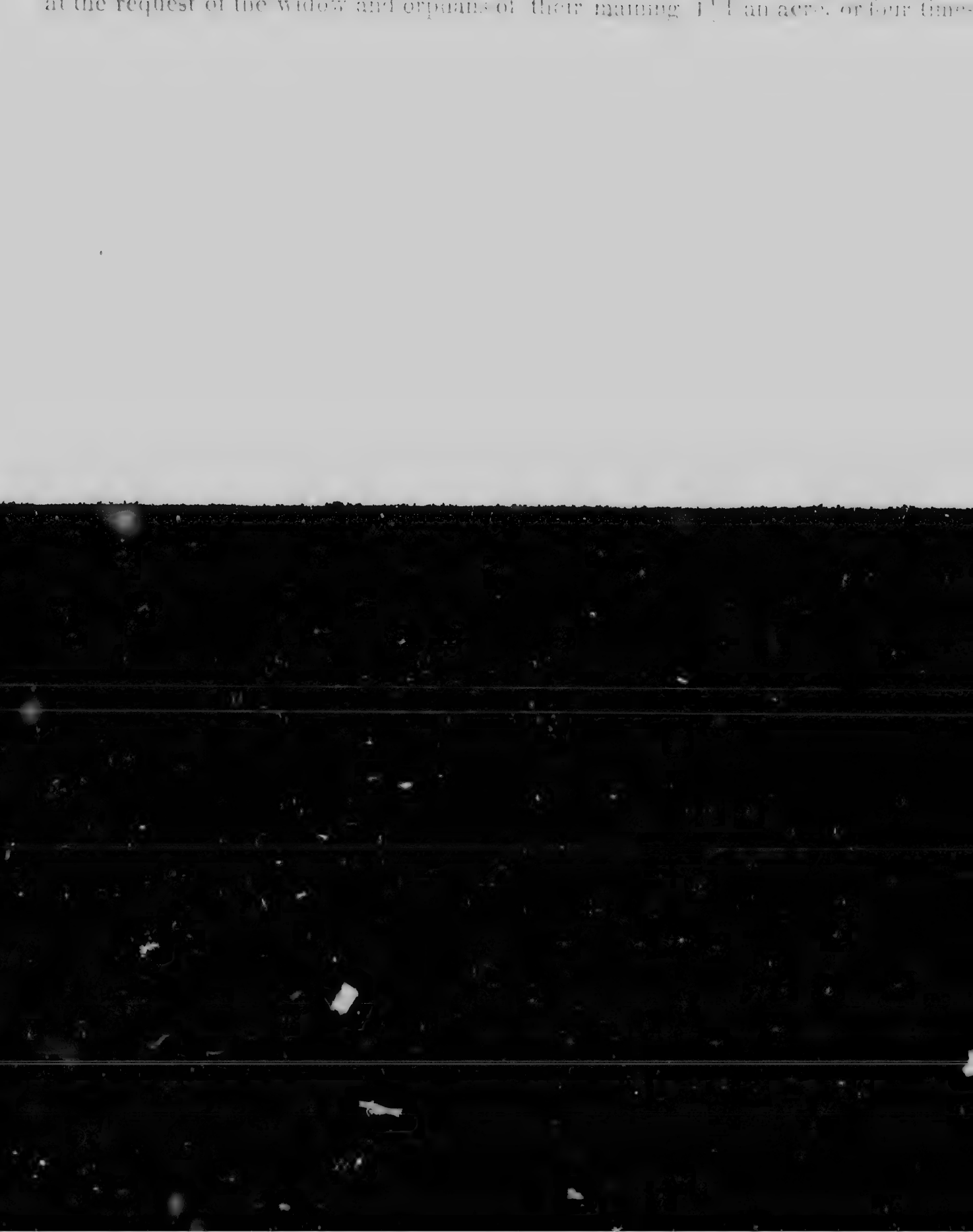
The District Council Bill was, if we believe Mr. Hincks, for-
ced through the assembly by menaces, by bribery and by fraud;
and the following apostates, parasites, and sycophants supported
the odious and oppressive measure, namely, Attorney General
Draper, Hopkins, Hincks, Crane, Boswell, Cameron, Gilchrist,
Parke, Pewell, Small, Steele, Thorburn, and Dr. Smith.



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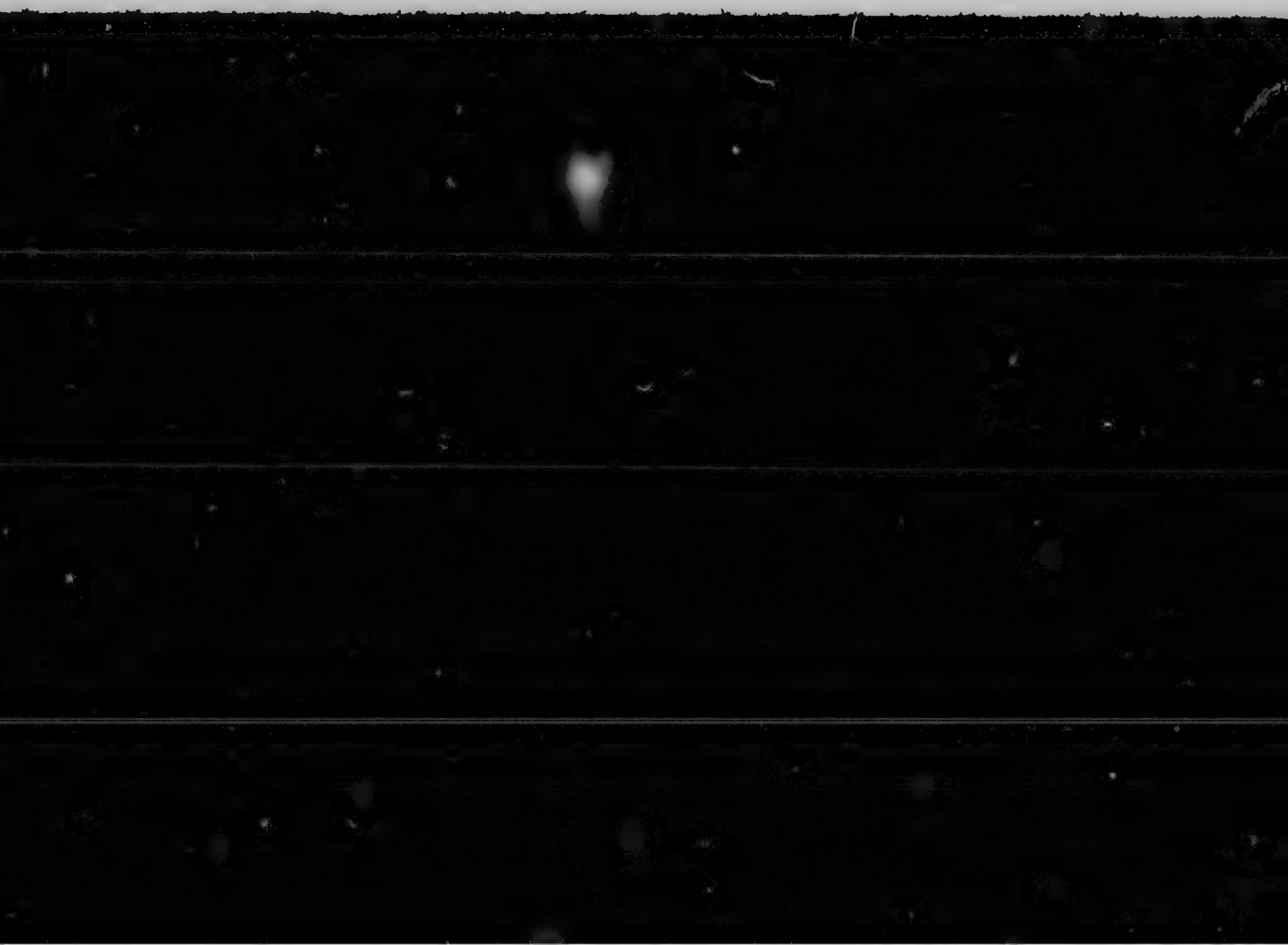




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